

Jane Henney, M.D.
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Doctor Henney:

This letter is an urgent request for the Food and Drug Administration to ban the use of human antibiotics to make livestock grow faster.

As you most certainly know, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers the overuse of antibiotics in animal agriculture the principal cause of antibiotic resistance in food-borne bacteria like salmonella. As an example, one strain of salmonella is now resistant to five antibiotics leaving doctors fewer tools to combat human disease.

This situation is cause for great concern and the practice of using antimicrobials for growth promotion, if they are also used for treatment of humans, should be halted at once. The World Health Organization has repeated its call for the termination of this practice. WHY WAIT?

My concern is so great that I now refuse to purchase meat unless it is certified to be free of the unnecessary use of human antibiotics. I also encourage others to consider following my practice.

Please act now before many more diseases become untreatable.

Thank you,

Claire Dross

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